

Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2009**Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development:**

See Overview description in Indicator 1.

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Indicator 2: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

Measurement: Percent = [(# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings) divided by the (total # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs)] times 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
FFY 2009	92%

Actual Target Data for FFY 2009: 74%

Source: Arizona Table 2- Report of Program Settings, submitted February 1, 2010. The report includes setting data for all children reported on Table 1, Report of Children Receiving Early Intervention Services in accordance with Part C for 2009.

Calculation used: Home + Community Based / Total= Actual Target Data. [(3972 Home + 24 Community-Based)/5372]

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2009:

- Billing records were utilized to identify each child's primary service setting for 2009. Changes to AzEIP billing data collection under the team-based model for some programs created new challenges for extracting settings data from billing records. Changes were made to the AzEIP data system in the spring of 2010 and implemented in August 2010, to support the gathering and reporting of settings data from IFSPs during FFY 2010.
- The report of children receiving their early intervention services in Community-Based settings was under-reported in FFY 2009. Of the 1,376 children reported as served in "Other" settings, an unknown number of these children were served by DES/Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) and received their early intervention services in community-based settings. DDD billing data do not include a settings code that is comparable to OSEP's community-based setting; because the DDD setting code for "community based" includes non-natural settings, such as therapy clinics and hospitals,

children reported by DDD as receiving services in community-based settings are reported by DES/AzEIP to OSEP under the “Other” settings category.

- The February 1, 2010, Table 2- Program Settings Report of children receiving their early intervention services in Home or Community-Based settings reflects an undercount of children actually served in those settings.

During the development of this APR, the February 1, 2010 Table 2- Program Settings results were reviewed and analyzed to identify regional or program trends that might account for the slippage in children receiving their services in settings other than home or community-based. AzEIP found no evidence of non-compliance and made no findings related to services in natural environments through the site monitoring process.

DES/AzEIP expected settings performance data to improve for FFY 2009 as a result of the implementation of Phase 2 team-based model contracts. The team based model implemented by AzEIP during 2008-2010 places very strong emphasis on the provision of services in natural environments. Local program invoice data, and file reviews for July 2008 - June 2010 demonstrated very high levels of performance on this measure. Arizona's Table 2 data processing reports for FFY 2009, based on those same local programs, however, produced results showing low levels of performance on this indicator, therefore contradicting the evidence from invoices and file reviews.

Because of this apparent contradiction in results, the data processing code used by AzEIP to compile the February 1, 2010, 618 Table 2- Program Setting report was reviewed by DES Division of Technology Services, Systems and Programming staff, to determine whether the code was accurately identifying settings for individual children. The code review revealed two issues: 1) coding errors converting the old federal settings codes to the new settings in the program databases; and 2) coding errors in assigning a setting code to children served through the team-based model programs. Neither of these errors were related to program practices or data entry error; the errors were embedded in the data program code itself. Adjustments and corrections are being devised for the settings data compilation process for the February 1, 2010 Table 2 Program Settings Report; DES AzEIP hopes to have those adjustments and correction in place before the report due date.

- DES/AzEIP completed Phase 2 implementation of team-based service delivery models in February 2010. This model strongly supports the provision of early intervention services in home and community-based settings. Targeted training and technical assistance was provided to new and continuing local programs, on topics, such as development of functional outcomes for children and families, and providing services in natural environments.

Team-based model monthly invoice reviews conducted by DES/AzEIP staff throughout FFY 2009, included analyzing the invoices for use of non-natural settings for early intervention service delivery. If unusual patterns were noted, the program was contacted, asked to review their use of non-natural settings for those children and ensure that such a setting was justified. If the program's invoices showed an unusual trend in delivering services in non-natural environments, the Technical Assistance and Monitoring Specialists (TAMS) assigned to that program was asked to review selected files with the program, and to provide targeted technical assistance related to addressing child and family IFSP outcomes in natural environments. None of these cases resulted in findings of non-compliance.

Improvement Activities	Timelines	Status
Continued implementation of the AzEIP Standards of Practice for early intervention professionals to support understanding of early intervention in natural environments.	December 2005 with annual trainings and ongoing test options	Ongoing
Provide focused technical assistance to programs that do not comply with natural environments.	December 2005 and ongoing	Incorporated into monitoring site visits
Incorporated herein are the improvement activities from: (i) Indicator 1 regarding expansion of the team-based model and functional, participation-based practices; (ii) Indicator 1 regarding recruitment and retention; (iii) Indicator 9 regarding revising and implementing General Supervision policies, procedures, tools and forms, root cause analysis, and enforcement and sanctions; and (iv) Indicator 14 regarding data management, editing and validation, and analysis.		

Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY2010

Improvement Activity	Timeline	Resources
<p>Delete: Provide focused technical assistance to programs that do not comply with natural environments.</p> <p>Replace with: Provide targeted and general technical assistance through regional meetings, on-site and phone meetings with TAMS and/or DES/AzEIP staff, written guidance/clarification and other strategies.</p> <p>Justification: Expands the range or formats in which training and technical assistance can be provided to address compliance and performance.</p>	<p>December 2005 and ongoing</p> <p>June 2011 and ongoing</p>	<p>CQI Coordinators & TAMS</p> <p>DES/AzEIP staff, TAMS and agency partners</p>